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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shirley, et al. Examiner: Rodriguez, Paul L.
Serial No.: 10/010,412 Group Art Unit: 2125
Filed: December 7, 2001 Docket No.: AMDA.499C1
(TT4002/03C1)

Title: MASK IDENTIFICATION DATABASE SERVER

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this communication is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on September 3, 2002.

By: Kelly S. Waltigney
Kelly S. Waltigney

OFFICE ACTION RESPONSE

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Technology Center 2100

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 31, 2002, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 7 and replace the indicated claims as follows; a marked-up version of the amendments is attached hereto in an appendix:

A1
6.(Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein storing mask data includes: using the computer to track the condition of each mask, the mask condition including particle contamination, mask degradation, number of exposures, number of times mask is handled and mask structural defects /wherein the masks are selected from the group consisting of reticles, wafer processing masks and solder bump masks.

A2
8.(Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said storing mask data includes: using the computer to match a reticle serial number and a wafer lot to an event on a processing line and storing match data as part of the mask data set.